

## II. AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please accept amendments to paragraph [0030] of the specification as follows:

[0030] Turning to FIG. 3C, as an alternative embodiment, if a client accesses the network resource 106 and determines in process S17 that network resource 106 is unavailable, the client 104 may in process S18 set status indicator 42 to unavailable, i.e., DOWN. In this fashion, the most up-to-date information regarding network resource 106 availability can be maintained, even in the event of system 10 falsely reporting network resource 106 as available. Processing then proceeds as indicated above.